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Dated: January 12, 2004

Signature:

Nabeela R. McMillian

Docket No.: 28341/6281A
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: McKim *et al.*

Application No.: 09/586,242

Group Art Unit: 1651

Filed: June 2, 2000

Examiner: Jean C. Witz

For: IMPROVED TOXICITY SCREENING
METHOD

RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED AUGUST 12, 2003

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

This paper is filed in response to the **non-final** Office action dated August 12, 2003. A response is due on January 12, 2004, by virtue of the attached fee and petition for a two-month extension of time to respond. No other fees are believed to be due, however, should any fees be deemed necessary in connection with the present paper, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any such fees to our Deposit Account No. 13-2855. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Amendments to the Specification. There are **no** amendments to the specification.

Amendments to the claims are reflected in the complete listing of claims pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §1.121, which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 8 of this paper.

There are a total of 13 pages in this document.